

The University of Akron IdeaExchange@UAkron

The University of Akron Faculty Senate Chronicle

4-5-2018

Faculty Senate Chronicle for March 1, 2018

Jon Miller

The University of Akron, mjon@uakron.edu

Please take a moment to share how this work helps you [through this survey](#). Your feedback will be important as we plan further development of our repository.

Follow this and additional works at: <http://ideaexchange.uakron.edu/universityofakronfacultysenate>

Recommended Citation

A transcript for this meeting can be found below, in the section called "Additional Files."

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by IdeaExchange@UAkron, the institutional repository of The University of Akron in Akron, Ohio, USA. It has been accepted for inclusion in The University of Akron Faculty Senate Chronicle by an authorized administrator of IdeaExchange@UAkron. For more information, please contact mjon@uakron.edu, uapress@uakron.edu.



March 1, 2018

16 pages

SENATE ACTIONS

- Adopted a resolution from the Curriculum Review Committee approving the list of curriculum change proposals.
- Adopted a resolution from the General Education Advisory Committee approving courses for the new general education requirement.

Table of Contents

Minutes of Faculty Senate meeting held March 1, 2018	3
Appendices to Minutes of the Faculty Senate meeting held on March 1, 2018	
A. Report of the Curriculum Review Committee	8
B. Report of the Athletics Committee	9
C. Report of the Ad hoc Scholarly Communications Committee	11
D. Report of the General Education Advisory Committee	15
E. Report of the Computing & Communications Technologies Committee	16

MINUTES OF THE FACULTY SENATE MEETING OF MARCH 1, 2018

The regular meeting of the Faculty Senate took place Thursday, March 1, 2018 in room 201 of the Buckingham Center for Continuing Education. Vice Chair Linda Marie Saliga called the meeting to order at 3:04 pm.

Of the current roster of 63 senators, 43 attended the meeting. Senators Adamowicz-Hariasz, Alves, Blackledge, Chronister, Feltey, Foster, Kidd, Mahajan, Makki, Nicholas, Osorio, Quinn, Rich, Srivatsan and Sterns were absent with notice. Senators Bible, Braun, Hariharan, Hreno, Matejkovic and Soukup were absent without notice.

I. Adoption of Agenda

On Senator Gatzia's motion, the agenda was adopted as amended by Vice Chair Saliga without dissent.

II. Adoption of Minutes of February 1, 2018 meeting

On Senator Clark's motion, the minutes were adopted without dissent.

III. Remarks of the Chairman

On behalf of Chair Rich, Vice Chair Saliga remarked:

The Voluntary Early Retirement Incentive Program information packet that was distributed to eligible faculty members contains misleading statements about faculty retirees' eligibility for Medicare. It says flatly that retiring University of Akron faculty members who are at least 65 years of age are eligible for Medicare. It also implies that the University has withheld Medicare taxes and remitted them to the federal government when it artfully states that most public universities and colleges do so, without saying whether the University of Akron is among them.

When I applied for Medicare Part A (hospitalization coverage) earlier this month, I learned that the University had not contributed to Medicare on my behalf and, consequently, none of my 36 and a half years of University of Akron employment counts toward the Medicare eligibility requirement of 40 quarters of employment with contributions to Medicare. Luckily, I had exactly 40 quarters of non-UA employment, which just barely made me eligible. Were it not for my service on the Summit County Board of Elections for the last year and three-quarters, I would have been seven quarters short of eligibility. I also learned that state employers such as the University of Akron are not required by law to withhold Medicare taxes for employees hired before April 1, 1986, although they are permitted to do so.

Shortly after learning this, I wrote to several University administrators, including the University's chief financial officer and the Provost, because they had signed the letter enclosed with the information packet, the Director of Human Resources, and the President, informing them of what I had learned and urging them to issue a correction and advise employees who were hired before April 1, 1986 to confirm their eligibility for Medicare Part A with the Social Security Administration, based either on non-UA employment or a spouse's eligibility.

The Director of Human Resources took issue with my characterization of the statements in the information packet as misleading, arguing in part that all UA employees are eligible for Medicare Part A, even if some might have to pay premiums to obtain it. In fact, essentially every citizen who is at least 65 years old can get Medicare Part A coverage if they pay premiums, but that has nothing to do with employment and the premiums are hefty enough that

they ought to be taken into account when employees are doing the financial planning that they should do when deciding whether to participate in the early retirement incentive program.

Subsequently, the Administration issued a “clarification,” which failed to directly acknowledge that the University has not been withholding Medicare taxes for employees hired before April 1, 1986, and which failed to advise eligible faculty hired before that date to consult the Social Security Administration to determine their eligibility for premium-free Medicare Part A coverage.

I am disappointed by the Administration’s determined lack of candor on this issue. Because the Administration has declined to do so, I feel compelled to warn my colleagues who began their employment with the University before April 1, 1986 and who have been employed by the University continuously since then that their decades of University of Akron employment do not count toward the 40-quarters Medicare eligibility requirement, and to advise them to consult with the Social Security Administration to ascertain whether they have credit for 40 quarters of non-UA employment or are eligible for premium-free coverage because of their spouse’s eligibility.

This concludes his remarks.

IV. Special Announcements

There were no special announcements.

V. Report of the Executive Committee

Secretary Miller reported:

Since the last regular meeting of the Senate, the Faculty Senate Executive Committee (EC) met three times.

On Thursday, February 15 we met twice. In the first meeting, we prepared for the second meeting, which was with President Wilson. In these meetings we discussed the opportunity President Wilson is exploring in Florida, athletics, the voluntary retirement incentive program, the four-day class schedule, and admissions.

On Thursday, February 22 we met to conduct regular Senate business and set the agenda for this meeting. We also discussed academic program review and Five-Star Fridays.

This concludes my report.

VI. Remarks of the Provost

Provost Ramsier reported that the RTP season is complete, and everyone who is expecting a letter should have received it by now.

Provost Ramsier also reported that the Board approved 17 Professional Development Leaves (of 29 applications), including one in the Law School.

Provost Ramsier praised the quality of the pools of applicants under consideration for faculty hires for Fall 2018.

Provost Ramsier added that the pre-1986 issue with Medicare was news to him and the others in the administration. He reported that there have been two successful open forums for this, and that continued demand and questions there will be another.

Provost Ramsier reported that so far, thirteen people have taken the VRIP.

Provost Ramsier spoke of the two open forums that were held to address questions about the four-day core schedule. He added that the four-day class schedule times were due in today, but he was not aware if it was the case that they have been received. He reminded faculty that Fall schedules can be added to PeopleSoft without meeting times. He emphasized the need for local,

department-level control for scheduling. He noted that there were 513 start times under the old scheduling system, and that the University retains the old software as a fallback.

On the subject of enrollment, Provost Ramsier reported that confirmations are down now 9% versus the same time last year. He noted that we are down 134 students. Out of these, 91 are students who have been deferred because they do not meet the admissions standards. He described this as a step in the right direction to help us with retention and graduation. Another good sign he sees in the numbers, he added, is that we are only down nine direct admits. He reminded faculty that students attend only for our programs and we can help.

Provost Ramsier noted that the Milken Report on Tech Transfer just came out. The University of Akron is ranked 61st of 225. Cleveland Clinic is ranked 24th. Ohio State is 55th. Toledo is 66th. This will be announced in the Digest so everyone can see it, he told the Senate. Kent State is tied for last place, with a score of 0.0 vs our 80.46 points. He emphasized that this says something.

Provost Ramsier made himself available for questions.

Senator Klein asked if the Provost would characterize the University as a research university. Provost Ramsier noted that it would depend on the metrics.

Senator Klein asked how we would change this. Provost Ramsier responded that Academic Program Review will help us to understand what we are and what we will be next. He noted that the national norms that characterize research universities do not include us in the top 155 that are R-1s of 4500 institutions in the nation. "What are we really?" he asked. "What do we think we are; what does the world think we are; and what do we want to be and will work to be?"

Senator Schulze described Program Review as something that tells us what we are but does not include information on how we are regarded outside the University. Provost Ramsier agreed, noting that we could not afford the time or the expense to include external review.

Senator Schulze followed up by asking if there was a plan to continue strategic planning after program review. Provost Ramsier replied yes, we will begin with the program review that will come to the Senate before the end of the semester.

Senator Schulze asked what would happen next. Decisions will be made based on the results of program review, Provost Ramsier noted, and we will then go forward from there. He promised that we would do something on the basis of program review and that it would not turn out to have been busy work.

Senator Schulze expressed her hope for program review as the basis for strategic planning. Provost Ramsier agreed.

Senator Elliott cited the last page of the VRIP package with numbers and a list of eligible and ineligible faculty. He noted that there are 610 FT teaching faculty, including about 40 department chairs. He then multiplied 570 faculty by an average salary of \$70,000 and got \$40 million. If we have a 20% reduction by fall, we then we might have \$32M in faculty salaries, he reasoned. He described this as eerily similar to the athletics subsidy of \$26M.

Provost Ramsier replied that he believed the number of teaching faculty is more like 700 and the salary pool is more like \$60 million. He promised to get the numbers and send them to the Senate.

Senator Klein asked if it was correct that the system would schedule times for courses. Provost Ramsier replied the system will provide the slots and the departments will put the courses they need into the slots they as see fit.

Senator Klein followed up by asking how early classes would start and how late they would end. Provost Ramsier replied that we heard at the forum it would be 7:30 to 5:30 as the norm for

day. He predicted it would not be as bad as he at first expected. He described our effort to do this will be our best effort but it will not be 100% or 93% of all courses on a four-day schedule.

Provost Ramsier further described the incoming software as being capable of importing curriculum guides and making suggestions about course offerings based on our prior scheduling patterns and enrollment.

Senator Nofziger spoke of the difficulty of offering courses in the evening, as they often fail to get sufficient enrollment. She asked whether we would be asked to cancel courses. Provost Ramsier responded that this has been a decision made by the deans for years.

Senator Veillette asked what would be the mechanism that will ensure an even spread across time slots. Provost Ramsier responded that all five of the people in the Registrar's office have offered to visit departments to help them fit the courses in. He spoke of how departments cooperate so that they do not create particular conflicts with offerings from other departments that also provide considerable instruction to the same group of students. He imagined that if departments make an effort to schedule in the four-day schedule with the same daily plans they used in the five-day schedule, common sense suggests that we will begin to avoid conflicts.

Senator Klein reported that the Academic Policies Committee has been discussing potential problems with the four-day core such as overlapping courses or insufficient time between classes for students to travel from one to the other. Provost Ramsier responded that he did not know but was certain that we have problems such as this under the current system. He speculated that it probably could not be any worse than it is now.

Senator Klein clarified that the example she spoke of was created by conflicting regular time slots. Vice Chair Saliga noted that this arose from overlaps between the regular three-credit courses and the regular four-credit courses. Provost Ramsier repeated that this shows we can improve. He expressed his belief that such things will improve with the use of the incoming software.

VIII. Committee Reports

A. Curriculum Review Committee—Chair Cravens

On behalf of the committee, Chair Cravens presented a motion to approve curriculum changes (see Appendix A). The motion was adopted without dissent.

B. Athletics Committee—Chair Juravich

The Athletics committee submitted a written report (see Appendix B).

C. Ad hoc Scholarly Communications Committee—Chair Miller

The ad hoc Scholarly Communications Committee submitted a written report (see Appendix C).

D. General Education Advisory Committee—Chair Bean

On behalf of the committee, Chair Bean presented a motion to approve curriculum changes (see Appendix D). The motion was adopted without dissent.

E. Computing & Communications Technologies Committee—Chair Randby

The Computing & Communications Technologies Committee submitted a written report (see Appendix E).

IX. Report of University Council Representatives—Senators Roy & Allen

Senator Roy reported on a short meeting on February 13, 2018 without President Wilson that addressed academic program review; VRIP, the four-day core, five-star Fridays schedule and its open forums; enrollment; and the Talent Development and Human Resources report made by Chair Erickson with a proposal for the creation of a sick leave bank.

X. Report of Graduate Council Representatives—Senators Allen & Soucek

There was no report.

XI. New Business

There was no new business.

XII. Good of the Order

Senator Roy invited faculty to attend the informal “Faculty First Fridays” event at the Lockview at the end of the day Friday.

XIII. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3:43 pm.

—Jon Miller, Secretary.

Questions and comments about the minutes can be emailed to mjon@uakron.edu or called in to x6202.

Curriculum Proposals for March 2018 Faculty Senate

Proposal Number	Proposal Title
CHP-SPLANG-17-22177	Observation and Clinical Techniques
PROV-INTERCOL-17-20109	Curating Exhibits and Displays in Museums and Archives
PROV-INTERCOL-17-22174	Human Science and Culture: Special Topics
SUMM-PUBSVCTECH-17-19859	Emergency Management
A&S-ARTSCO-17-20884	Criminal Just Tech - Pub Sfty
A&S-FAMILYCONS-17-20300	Family Development
EDUC-CURR-17-21780	AYA - Integrated Mathematics
EDUC-CURR-17-21521	AYA -Integrated Social Studies
EDUC-CURR-17-21511	Student Teaching: K-3
SUMM-ENGRSCI-17-21837	Construction Surveying
ENGR-BIOMED-17-19946	Biomedical Engr-Biomaterials &
ENGR-BIOMED-17-19971	Biomedical Engr-Biomat / Coop
SUMM-PUBSVCTECH-17-20456	Cyber Disaster Management
CHP-ALLIEDHEAL-17-19850	Medical Assisting Technology
CHP-SOCIAL-17-21784	Social Work
CHP-SOCIAL-17-22193	Addiction Services (Minor)
CHP-ALLIEDHEAL-17-22445	Surgical Technology
CHP-NUDIET-17-20184	Dietetics - Coordinated Progr
CHP-NURIN-17-22710	Nursing LPN/BSN
CHP-NURIN-17-22709	Nursing - Accelerated Option
CHP-NURIN-17-22711	Nursing RN/BSN Akron
CHP-NURIN-17-22712	Nursing RN/BSN Lorain
CHP-NURIN-17-22715	Nursing RN/BSN Lakeland
CHP-NURIN-17-22717	RN/BSN Online
CHP-NURIN-17-22713	Nursing RN/BSN Wayne
CHP-NURIN-17-22714	Nursing RN/BSN MCUC
CHP-NURIN-17-22716	Nursing RN/BSN Lakewood
CHP-NURIN-17-22708	Nursing
CHP-NURIN-17-20044	Nursing RN/BSN Lakewood
BUS-FINAN-16-19597	Finance - Corporate Finl Mgmt
BUS-FINAN-16-19598	Finance - Financial Planning
BUS-FINAN-16-19599	Finance - Financial Services
BUS-ECON-17-21719	Economic Data Analytics
BUS-MANGT-17-22413	Business Statistics
BUS-MANGT-17-22171	Systems Development Project
BUS-MANGT-17-22347	Information Systems Management
BUS-FINAN-17-20683	Advanced Portfolio Management
ENGR-BIOMED-17-19933	Introduction to Biomaterials Laboratory
WAYN-WAYINST-17-21961	Business Management Technology - Business Administration Option
WAYN-WAYINST-17-22289	Associate of Technical Studies
SUMM-PUBSVCTECH-16-17148	Professionalism in Emergency Management and Homeland Security
BUS-MANGT-17-22459	Management of Service Operations
SUMM-ASSOC-17-22494	Contemporary Global Issues
CHP-NURIN-17-22476	Adult/Gero NP
PROV-INTERCOL-18-22899	Honors Colloquium: Humanities
PROV-INTERCOL-18-22900	Honors Colloquium: Natural Science
PROV-INTERCOL-18-22901	Honors Colloquium: Social Science

Athletics Committee meeting February 5, 2018

Attending: Robert Gandee, Mary Lu Gribschaw, Anne Jorgensen, Matthew Juravich, Timothy Lillie, John Nicholas, Deb Owens, Rolando Ramirez, Laura Richardson, Benjamin Rochester, Jack Sahl

Meeting called to order at 11:02 am

Approval of Minutes from 11/20/2017 meeting

Motion to approve by Rochester, seconded by Nicholas. Minutes approved.

Motion to approve agenda by Nicholas, seconded by Ramirez. Agenda approved.

Update from Athletic Department (Mary Lu Gribschaw/ Anne Jorgensen)

Several items were discussed by athletic department representatives. First, Anne Jorgensen announced that Friday, March 2 is the Dean's list awards at the basketball game. Anne also shared team GPAs and list of athletes on Dean's list. Next re: student athlete academic support is getting ready to look at summer registration.

Mary Lu Gribschaw addressed the proposed 4-day week and said that they (i.e., athletics) were not really sure until schedules are unveiled but they don't see any negatives in the new concept. However, concern was expressed about how a 4-day week with Fridays off may affect attendance at games. The University's new unveiled esports initiative was briefly discussed particularly related to how/ if the NCAA might be involved. Gribschaw commented that if the NCAA were to get involved, the student would no longer be able to make money. A committee member expressed that prospective students are excited by the initiative.

NCAA update from Dr. Owens

Several items were discussed by Dr. Deb Owens, the U of A's Faculty Athletic Representative (FAR) to the NCAA. First, she shared a newly unveiled model from the NCAA to provide funding based upon academic performance. Starting in 2021, institutions will have to meet certain criteria to receive a portion of this newly created funding which will consider data related to graduation success rate as well as federal rate information. More to come on this but could be an additional revenue source for athletics in the future. Additional discussion touched on the attendance policy used by Miami University and how it might be considered for implementation at U of A. Finally, there was a brief discussion of the financial status of student athletes post-graduation as well as the hotly discussed transfer policy for NCAA student athletes that is currently being addressed.

Discussion of agenda items for Spring '18 semester

It was brought up that athletics (football specifically) is now seeking more in-state scholarship students. How will this work for Athletics? Further discussion to follow during future meetings. Also, how has

athletics transitioned after losing more than half of their GAs? It was noted that the number across athletics has decreased from 51 to 24. Further discussion required to better understand the impact.

Motion for Adjournment – Meeting adjourned at 12:04 pm.

Report of the ad hoc Scholarly Communications Committee

February 28, 2018

The ad hoc Scholarly Communications Committee has approved applications to create two new series in our repository, IdeaExchange@UAkron. *Ashbelt* is a journal of undergraduate creative writing. *The Rubbertop Review* is also a student-run journal that publishes creative writing. Both publications are sponsored by Eric Wasserman of the English Department.

Faculty interested in hosting scholarly communications in our repository can get assistance from The University of Akron Press. Our repository software, Digital Commons, is designed to be self-service, and our license includes technical support from bepress, the company that licenses this platform to UA. Please contact Jon Miller at x6202 if you are contemplating the publication of scholarly material or the founding of a scholarly journal and think the UA website might make a good home for this publication.

The application for the creation of a new space in the repository is attached to this report.

Jon Miller
Chair, Ad hoc Scholarly Communications Committee

**Application for creating a series or journal in IdeaExchange@UAkron
for the Scholarly Communications Committee, The University of Akron**

Directions

Visit the "reference" area of the Digital Commons home page at <http://digitalcommons.bepress.com/reference/>. Find and read the manuals for managing the type of repository publication you'd like to begin. Complete the required form(s) for bepress IT support that might be included and forward them, with a document answering the following questions, plus additional file(s), if needed, to the chair of the ad hoc Scholarly Communications Committee (for 2016-2017, Jon Miller mjon@uakron.edu x6202).

Have a question? The committee will work with you on completing this application.

- 1. Proposed name of series or journal? Note that you will be able to change the name later.**

- 2. Please provide a brief description and rationale for the series.**

- 3. Proposed URL for series or journal? All URLs for in IdeaExchange will begin with <http://ideaexchange.uakron.edu/>; please indicate what additional string of characters you would like to create the URL for the proposed series or journal. Note that you will not be able to change this later.**

- 4. Is the content for the series or journal already prepared? Will you be publishing a set of completed works or establishing a place where works will published going forward?**

- 5. Will the series or journal include peer-reviewed content? If so, who will manage peer review and how will this be handled?**

- 6. Will the series have an editorial or advisory board? An active editorial board will be necessary for the publication of peer-reviewed content. Advisory boards can be helpful in a variety of ways. If this series will have a board, please attach endorsements--brief letters supporting the idea of the series and promising to work to support its operation--from each member of the proposed board.**
- 7. If the series or journal is planned as an ongoing project, who will acquire content for the series or journal? Are events or processes planned that will help generate a steady supply of new material for the series or journal?**
- 8. Who will handle and store permissions for publication? Note that the University of Akron Press can help publishers to understand what permission forms will work for a series or journal.**
- 9. Who will do the final editorial work on the content in the series or journal--who will do the copyediting?**
- 10. Who will design and layout the content? If the series or journal will be made up primarily of text articles, the publisher can use default templates built into Digital Commons. The University of Akron Press can also work with campus publishers to create more individualized templates.**
- 11. Who will administrate the series or journal on a day-to-day basis?**

12. How will the series or journal be marketed or promoted?

13. Please sign and date in the space below.

signature

printed or typed name

date

GEAC Senate Report

February 27, 2018

Submitted by Janet Bean, GEAC member and Coordinator of General Education

The General Education Advisory Committee submits the following courses for Faculty Senate approval. As existing courses, they went through the “fast-track” process rather than through the CPS. GEAC has approved them and verified that they have also received departmental approval.

Natural Science

- 3370:121 Dinosaurs (1)
- 3370:122 Mass Extinctions & Geology (1)

Complex Systems Affecting Individuals in Society

- 3250:430 Labor Market & Social Policy (3)

Critical Thinking

- 7100:100 Art History Survey I (3)

Computing & Communications Technologies Committee

Subject: Computing & Communications Technologies Committee meeting report

CCTC Meeting Date: *[2018-02-16 Fri]*

The CCTC met on Friday, February 16, 2018.

The committee met with John Corby to discuss plans for a regular laptop replacement program. IT has devised a plan and it has been presented to the President's cabinet for consideration. The plan is a five-year plan similar to the plan that the CCTC proposed and the Faculty Senate passed last year.

Moving the RTP process from paper-based to electronic-based was discussed. There are numerous issues to consider and resolve before any proposal can be devised. The committee will likely take several meetings to examine these issues before writing a proposal.

Scott Randby
CCTC Chair